

H.514

Introduced by Representative Deen of Westminster

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Fish and wildlife; hunting; fishing; wildlife management and
conservation stamp

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp. Annual purchase of a Wildlife
Management and Conservation Stamp would be required to hunt and fish in
the State. Receipts from the sale of the Stamp would be deposited into a
special fund for wildlife management, water quality programs, and invasive
species management.

An act relating to a Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp for the
taking of fish or wildlife

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. §§ 4281 and 4282 are added to read:

§ 4281. STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

STAMP

(a) Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp established. The
Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife annually shall issue a State Wildlife

1 Management and Conservation Stamp to all persons who apply to take fish or
2 wildlife in the State. The Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife shall be
3 responsible for the design, production, procurement, distribution, and sale of
4 all stamps and all marketable stamp by-products such as posters, artwork,
5 calendars, and other items.

6 (b) Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp required. No person
7 16 years of age or older shall attempt to take or take any fish or wildlife in this
8 State without first obtaining a State Wildlife Management and Conservation
9 Stamp for the current year in addition to a regular fishing or hunting license as
10 provided by section 4251 of this title. A State Wildlife Management and
11 Conservation Stamp shall not be transferable. The year for the State Wildlife
12 Management and Conservation Stamp shall run from January 1 through
13 December 31.

14 (c) Fee. Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamps shall be sold at
15 the direction of the Commissioner for a fee of \$20.00. The issuing agent may
16 retain a fee of \$1.00 for each stamp and shall remit \$19.00 of each fee to the
17 Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Commissioner shall establish a uniform
18 sale price for all categories of Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp
19 by-products.

20 (d) Disposition of State Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp
21 receipts. All State Wildlife Management and Conservation Stamp receipts and

1 all receipts from the sale of Stamp by-products shall be deposited in the
2 Wildlife Management and Conservation Fund. All stamp and by-product
3 receipts shall be expended through the appropriation process for waterfowl
4 acquisition and improvement projects.

5 § 4282. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION FUND

6 (a) There is created a Wildlife Management and Conservation Special Fund
7 to be administered by the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife. The Fund shall
8 consist of receipts from the sale of State Wildlife Management and
9 Conservation Stamps and Stamp by-products.

10 (b) The Commissioner may use monies deposited in the Fund for wildlife
11 management, water quality management, and invasive species management.

12 (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 588(3), interest earned
13 by the Fund shall be retained in the Fund from year to year.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.